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REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO L-1872
22 SEPTEMBER 1966
PAGE 1

MEKONG RIVER FLOODING
VIENTIANE, LAOS
1758N 10236E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

MAJOR PORTIONS OF VIENTIANE, LAOS, HAVE BEEN INUNDATED BY THE
FLOODING MEKONG RIVER.

2. COLLATERAL:

FIRST INDICATION OF SEVERE FLOODING IN VIENTIANE WERE RECEIVED
ON 20 AUGUST 1966. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS INDICATED THE SUBSEQUENT
OVERSHADOWING OF MOST MILITARY OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY IN ZONE 5. THE
MAIN GOVERNMENT CONCERN WAS TO IMPLEMENT FLOOD-CONTROL AND REFUGEE
RELIEF PROGRAMS IN VIENTIANE AND THE SURROUNDING FLOODED AREAS. THE
FLOOD REACHED ITS CREST DURING THE FIRST PART OF SEPTEMBER, AND IS
NOW RECEDING BACK TO ITS NORMAL LEVEL. A MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP AND REPAIR
EFFORT WILL APPARENTLY BE REQUIRED TO RESTORE VIENTIANE TO NORMAL.

3. MISSION READOUT:

MAJOR SECTIONS OF VIENTIANE HAVE BEEN FLOODED BY THE MEKONG
RIVER INCLUDING THE GRAND MARKET AND VIENTIANE AIRFIELD

25X1

THE AIR ORDER OF BATTLE AT FLOODED VIENTIANE AIRFIELD INCLUDES SIX
C-47, THREE HELIO COURIER, ONE UNIDENTIFIED FIXED WING, THREE
UNIDENTIFIED TWIN ENGINE AIRCRAFT, ONE UNIDENTIFIED FOUR-ENGINE AIRCRAFT,
ONE UNIDENTIFIED HELICOPTER, AND FOUR DERELICT C-47 AIRCRAFT.

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should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the re-
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Division, NPIC.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

25X1

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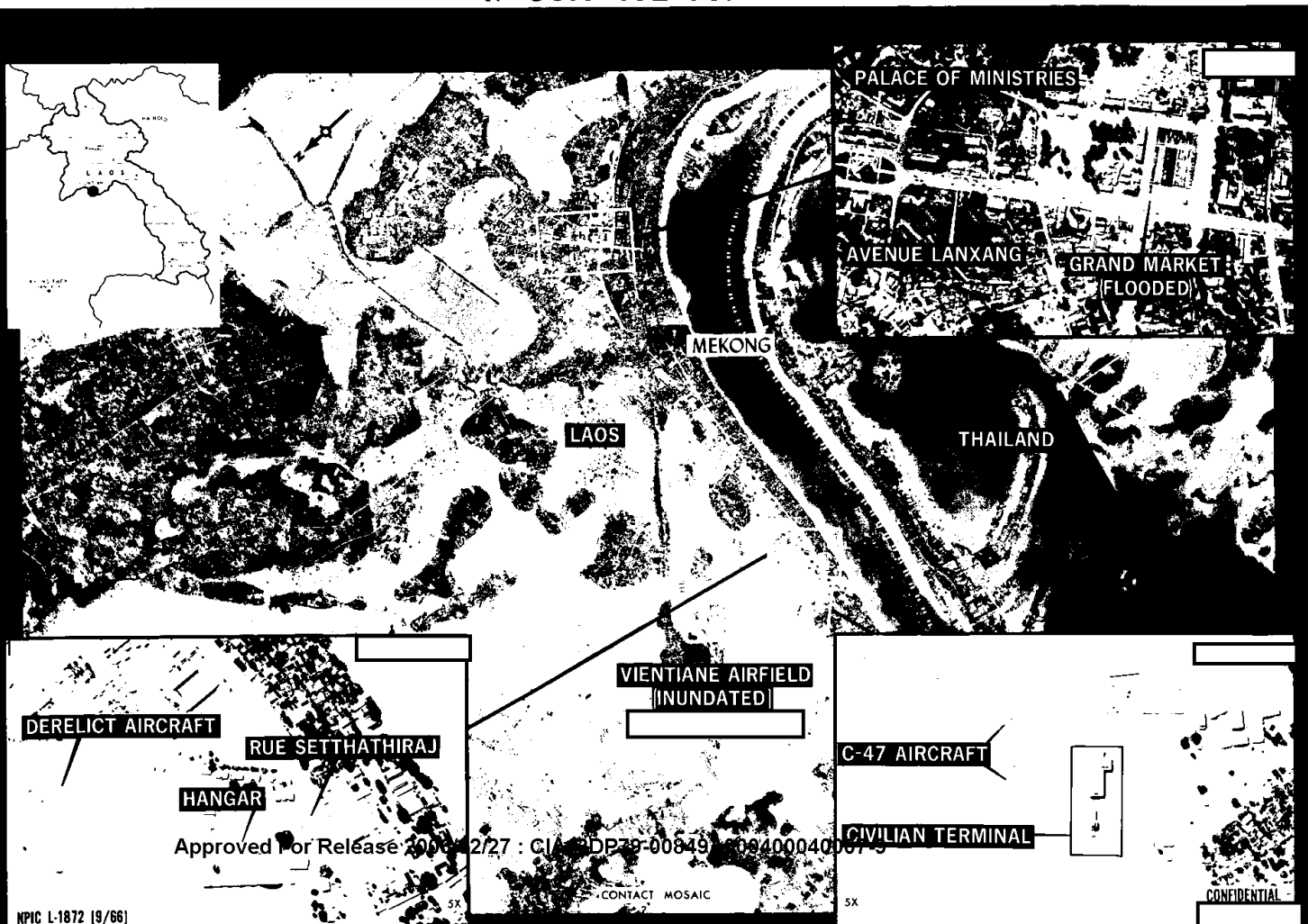
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**MEKONG RIVER FLOODING
VIENTIANE, LAOS
17-58N 102-36E**

25X1



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